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# WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

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March 17, 1982

## WISCONSIN FARM HIGHLIGHTS

- Wisconsin Milk Production Down 2 Percent in February
- U.S. Cheese and Butter Output Up in January
- Spotlight — Trempealeau County
- Record U.S. Winter Wheat Crop Expected

## February 1982 Milk Cows and Milk Production

State	Milk cows			Milk production		
	1980	1981	1982	1980	1981	1982
	Thousands			Million pounds		
California . . . . .	884	913	946	999	1,041	1,088
Minnesota . . . . .	850	880	910	765	814	842
New York . . . . .	910	917	915	860	848	851
Pennsylvania . . . . .	713	718	730	684	696	726
Wisconsin . . . . .	1,813	1,822	1,830	1,731	1,731	1,693
United States . . . . .	10,773	10,880	11,003	9,972	10,129	10,311

ago. Production per cow averaged 937 pounds during February, 6 pounds above last year and 11 pounds more than February 1980. Total number of milk cows averaged 11.0 million head, up 1 percent from February 1981 and 2 percent above February 1980.

Milk production in Wisconsin during February amounted to 1.69 billion pounds, down 2 percent from February 1981. Production per cow averaged 925 pounds, down 25 pounds from a year earlier. Wisconsin's milk cow herd totaled 1,830,000 head, 8,000 more than year-ago totals.

## Top 20 U.S. Dairy Counties

Three California counties lead the list of the nation's top 20 counties for milk cow numbers. San Bernardino County is, by a fairly wide margin, the leading U.S. dairy county. During 1980 San Bernardino housed an average of 153,500 milk cows. Tulare County ranked second in milk cow numbers while Stanislaus County ranked third. Lancaster County, in Pennsylvania, ranked 4th as the county housed an average of 94,000 milk cows in 1980. Marathon County, Wisconsin, ranked 5th with 1980 cow numbers totaling 85,900. Sterns

## U.S. Milk Production Continues at High Level

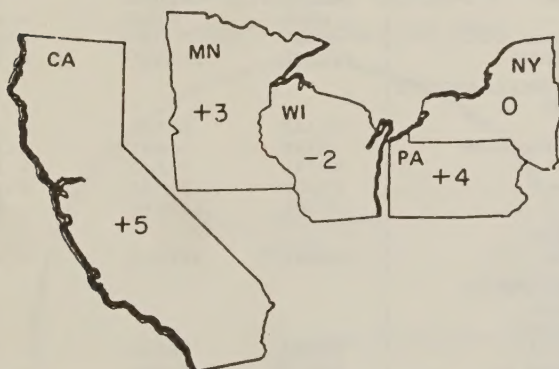
Milk production in the U.S. during February totaled 10.3 billion pounds, 2 percent more than in February 1981 and 3 percent above February 1980. Accumulated milk production during the first two months of 1982 totaled 21.4 billion pounds, compared with 20.9 billion pounds a year

## Top Twenty United States Counties, Milk Cow Numbers, 1980 1/

County	Number of milk cows	Milk per cow	Total production
	Number	Pounds	1,000 pounds
San Bernardino, California . . . . .	153,500	2/	2,471,155
Tulare, California . . . . .	109,250	2/	1,725,515
Stanislaus, California . . . . .	98,000	2/	1,431,883
Lancaster, Pennsylvania . . . . .	94,000	12,500	1,174,750
Marathon, Wisconsin . . . . .	85,900	12,400	1,065,160
Riverside, California . . . . .	85,500	2/	1,342,772
Merced, California . . . . .	80,500	2/	1,248,213
Sterns, Minnesota . . . . .	71,300	11,300	806,000
Clark, Wisconsin . . . . .	67,900	12,400	841,960
Dane, Wisconsin . . . . .	65,000	13,000	845,000
Dodge, Wisconsin . . . . .	63,100	13,000	820,300
Maricopa, Arizona . . . . .	63,000	13,700	863,100
San Joaquin, California . . . . .	59,000	2/	911,474
Grant, Wisconsin . . . . .	56,800	11,800	670,240
Fresno, California . . . . .	62,500	2/	763,634
Chippewa, Wisconsin . . . . .	50,800	12,100	614,680
Kings, California . . . . .	50,500	2/	779,254
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin . . . . .	50,500	12,900	651,450
Green, Wisconsin . . . . .	50,200	12,900	647,580
St. Lawrence, New York 3/ . . . . .	49,500	10,500	519,800

1/Taken from Statistical Reporting Service annual county milk production estimates series. 2/California county milk cow numbers are the average of January 1, 1980 and January 1, 1981 milk cow inventory series, SRS. California milk production data taken from "Commercial Production of Milk and Milkfat, By Counties, California, 1980." 3/New York data is for 1979.

Milk Production, 5 Major Dairy States, February, 1982  
(Percent change from the previous year)



222-6-82

## WISCONSIN AGRICULTURE REPORTING SERVICE

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Wisconsin Department of Agriculture,  
Trade and Consumer Protection  
Division of Administration

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Statistical Reporting Service



is Minnesota's leading dairy county. During 1980 Sterns housed 71,300 milk cows, which placed the county 8th nationally.

In addition to Marathon County, other prominent Wisconsin dairy counties which ranked within the nation's top 20 in 1980 included: Clark County — 9th, Dane County — 10th, Dodge County — 11th, Grant County — 14th, Chippewa County — 16th, Fond du Lac County — 18th, and Green County — 19th. Because the dairy industry is so concentrated in the state, Wisconsin counties dominate the listing of the nation's top 100 dairy counties.

### February Milk Prices:

Prices received by Wisconsin dairy farmers for milk sold in February were expected to average \$13.45 a hundredweight. The price would be 5 cents less than the January price of \$13.50 and 17 cents less than the February 1981 price of \$13.62.

The January price of \$13.50 was 6 cents down from the December 1981 price of \$13.56 and 13 cents less than the January 1981 price of \$13.63.

Grade A market milk returned an average of \$13.63 a hundredweight in January, down 5 cents from the previous month and down 16 cents from the previous year. Grade B milk averaged \$13.19 during January, down 5 cents from the previous month and down 8 cents from January 1981.

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### Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	December 1981		January price per cwt.			Feb. 1982 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1981	1982	82/81 change	
Milk for all uses	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Wisconsin . . . . .	3.83	13.56	13.63	13.50	- 1	13.45
Minnesota . . . . .	3.74	13.20	13.34	13.18	- 1	13.10
New York . . . . .	3.70	13.90	14.00	13.80	- 1	13.80
California . . . . .	3.78	14.10	13.90	13.80	- 1	13.70
United States . . . . .	3.79	14.00	14.10	13.90	- 1	13.90
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . . . .	3.82	13.68	13.79	13.63	- 1	XXX
Manufacturing milk . . . . .	3.85	13.24	13.27	13.19	- 1	XXX
Creameries . . . . .	3.81	13.40	13.28	13.34	n. c.	XXX
Cheese factories . . . . .	3.85	13.24	13.29	13.19	- 1	XXX
Varied prod. plants . . . . .	3.86	13.20	13.14	13.14	n. c.	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

### Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	January 1981	December 1981	January 1982 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Market milk . . . . .	13.32	13.14	13.10	- 2
Manufacturing milk . . . . .	12.78	12.67	12.67	- 1
Creameries . . . . .	12.81	12.89	12.89	+ 1
American cheese plants . . . . .	12.79	12.66	12.66	- 1
Varied products plants . . . . .	12.65	12.61	12.61	n. c.
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone . . . . .	13.13	13.05	13.03	- 1

1/Computed using milkfat differential. 2/Preliminary.

### Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	January 1981	January 1982	Change from last year
BUTTER	1,000 pounds		Percent
Wisconsin . . . . .	29,700	31,700	+ 7
Minnesota . . . . .	14,615	16,190	+ 11
California . . . . .	18,000	19,200	+ 7
Other states . . . . .	59,012	61,244	+ 4
United States . . . . .	121,327	128,334	+ 6
CHEESE, AMERICAN			
Wisconsin . . . . .	90,400	89,800	- 1
Minnesota . . . . .	44,260	43,000	- 3
Iowa . . . . .	8,910	8,800	- 1
Other states . . . . .	68,610	76,783	+ 12
United States . . . . .	212,180	218,383	+ 3
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS			
United States			
Swiss . . . . .	18,368	17,791	- 3
Brick and Muenster . . . . .	6,860	6,667	- 3
Italian . . . . .	85,136	79,625	- 6
All other . . . . .	21,380	24,552	+ 15
Total . . . . .	131,744	128,635	- 2
ALL CHEESE			
United States . . . . .	342,816	347,018	+ 1
OTHER PRODUCTS			
Cottage cheese			
United States			
Curd 1/ . . . . .	52,014	48,236	- 7
Creamed 2/ . . . . .	63,438	59,060	- 7
Lowfat 3/ . . . . .	14,571	14,605	n. c.
	1,000 gallons		Percent
Ice Cream			
Wisconsin . . . . .	1,450	1,400	- 3
Illinois . . . . .	2,600	2,050	- 21
Iowa . . . . .	830	912	+ 10
Michigan . . . . .	2,300	2,250	- 2
Minnesota . . . . .	2,140	1,825	- 15
Other states . . . . .	44,744	43,651	- 2
United States . . . . .	54,064	52,088	- 4

1/Mostly used for processing into creamed or lowfat cottage cheese. 2/Fat content 4 percent or more. 3/Fat content less than 4 percent.



### U. S. Butter and Cheese Production Up in January

Cheese and butter production in the U.S. during January was up from the January 1981 output. Total cheese production in the U.S. during the month was 347 million pounds, 1 percent more than January 1981. Output increases were reported for American and all other varieties while decreases were reported for Swiss, Brick and Muenster, and Italian. During January, Wisconsin plants produced 89.8 million pounds of American, down 1 percent from the previous year. U.S. butter production totaled 128.3 million pounds during the month, 6 percent more than year-ago totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products, United States

Commodity	Jan. 31, 1980	Jan. 31, 1981	Jan. 31, 1982	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk . . . . .	4,667	6,547	7,598	+ 16
Dried skim milk . . . . .	87,146	83,929	89,932	+ 7
Dried buttermilk . . . . .	7,510	9,137	8,931	- 2
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ . .	75,282	41,711	45,539	+ 9

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

### SPOTLIGHT — TREMPEALEAU COUNTY

Trempealeau County, located in western Wisconsin, ranked 20th among counties in the state in 1980 in cash receipts from farm commodities. In 1980 farm cash receipts came to \$94.1 million, up 8 percent from 1979. Livestock and livestock products accounted for \$79 million or 84 percent of all cash receipts. The \$54 million obtained from dairying was 57 percent of the total farm income. During 1980, Trempealeau County housed an average of 35,600 milk cows which produced a total of 431 million pounds of milk. During the year, Trempealeau plants were responsible for outputting 82.5 million pounds of cheese. Trempealeau is Wisconsin's 5th leading cheese-producing county and is the state leader in the production of American cheese.

Meat animals contributed over 14 percent of the 1980 cash receipts. Cattle and calves were responsible for 10 percent of

the county's farm income while hogs and pigs contributed 4 percent. A considerable amount of Trempealeau's farm income, 12 percent, comes from other poultry, particularly broilers. Other poultry added nearly \$10 million to the county's farm income while sales of eggs added over \$1 million.

Field crops contributed 12 percent of the county's 1980 farm income. Corn contributed \$9 million and soybeans contributed nearly \$2 million. Vegetables added almost 1 percent of the county's farm income and specialty crops an additional 3 percent. Forest products were the most important specialty crop, adding over \$2 million to Trempealeau's farm income in 1980.

### March 1 Potato Stocks

Wisconsin's potato stocks, as of March 1, totaled 4.15 million hundredweight. This is 1,350,000 hundredweight more than the 2.8 million hundredweight on hand March 1, 1981. The 4.15 million hundredweight represents 23 percent of the state's 1981 production. Wisconsin's 1981 potato crop totaled 18.2 million hundredweight, a 14 percent increase from 1980. February's disappearance amounted to 1.65 million hundredweight.

### MARCH CROP REPORT

#### Record U.S. Winter Wheat Crop in Prospect

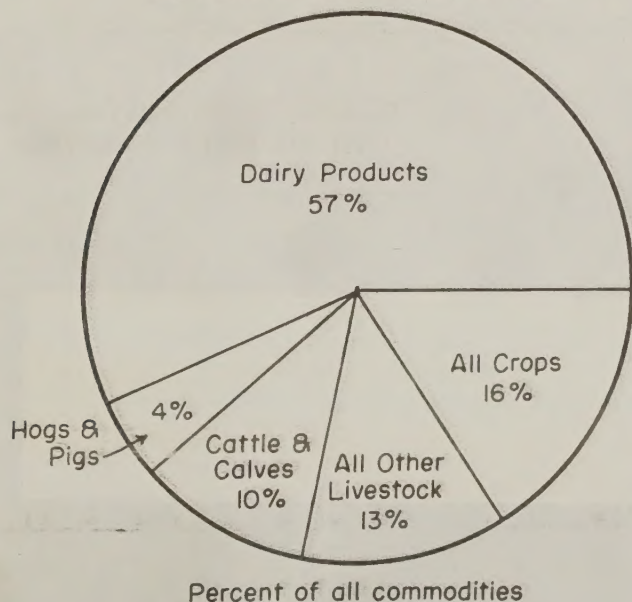
Winter wheat growers provided the first clue to the size of the 1982 U.S. crop by planting over 66 million acres last fall. Although up only slightly from 1981, this is the largest winter wheat acreage in history. Based on this acreage and early estimates of good to excellent crop development, production is forecast at a record 2.13 billion bushels for 1982. However, the final outcome of the harvest rests on the weather and with growers' participation in the government's 15 percent reduced acreage program. The lowest prices in 3 years and prospects for burdensome carryover stocks will heavily influence producers' decisions to comply with acreage reduction requirements.

Despite exceptionally strong export and feed disappearance and expansion of stocks in the farmer-owned reserve, large supplies continue to pressure wheat prices. In coming months, the export pace, the condition of winter wheat as it comes out of dormancy, and the crop outlook for other major producers in the Northern Hemisphere will affect cash prices. Currently, these factors indicate that the average U.S. farm price for 1981-82 will likely be about 20 cents a bushel below last season's \$3.91.

U.S. wheat exports during June-December surpassed 1 billion bushels for the first time. This was in response to record world trade, of which the U.S. is expected to provide about 50 million tons (1.85 billion bushels), or about half. This season's stepped-up overseas business stems from large purchases by the Soviet Union and China. With total commitments already exceeding 80 percent of expected exports, sales will likely be slower through season's end.

A larger than expected crop in the Southern Hemisphere helped make 1981-82 world wheat production a record 452 million metric tons. Smaller harvests in many importing nations and larger production in major exporting countries

TREMPEALEAU COUNTY  
Agricultural Cash Receipts, 1980





combined to boost trade to a record 101 million tons. For the season, total world consumption will likely fall below production, resulting in a small increase in stocks.

The U.S. wheat marketing season is well past the half-way mark, and disappearance was a record-setting 1.6 billion bushels during June-December. In perspective, as recently as 1976-77 wheat disappearance was only 1.7 billion for the entire year. The 1.1 billion-bushel disappearance expected for the remainder of the season means that ending stocks will be up about 75 million from a year earlier, exceeding 1 billion bushels for the first time in 4 years. About two-thirds of expected year-end stocks will be isolated in the reserve program or owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). As a result, the "free" supply of wheat will be sharply below recent years' levels. — Wheat Outlook and Situation

#### Wisconsin's Winter Wheat Update

Wisconsin growers planted 100,000 acres of winter wheat last fall, equal to planted acreage a year earlier and the highest total since 1922. Based on conditions as of December 1, 1981, the 1982 crop should average 38 bushels per acre, down considerably from last year's 50 bushels per acre average.

Kansas is the national winter wheat production leader, with an estimated 1982 production of 440.2 million bushels. Kansas growers planted 14.2 million acres of winter wheat last fall.

#### EXPORT POTENTIAL IS GROWING IN THE MIDDLE EAST

In the Middle East and Northern Africa, demand for agricultural commodities is rapidly increasing. This area's population is growing 3 percent a year, with food demand probably growing more than 5 percent annually. U.S. agricultural exports to the region are estimated to grow more than 25 percent this year to about \$3.3 billion.

#### CROP AND LIVESTOCK ESTIMATING PROGRAM CHANGES

Due to severe budget limitations a number of program changes will be instituted by the USDA's Statistical Reporting Service. These changes are effective March 10, 1982. The most significant changes which affect Wisconsin's data series include the following:

##### DAIRY

- Weekly butter and cheese reports issued by the Wisconsin office will be eliminated.
- Monthly milk production will become a quarterly series.
- The monthly dairy products release will become a quarterly issue.
- The monthly cold storage series will become a quarterly series.

##### LIVESTOCK

- The July cattle report will carry national estimates only and not estimates by separate states.
- Wisconsin will be eliminated from the quarterly cattle on feed report.
- The number of state estimates from the quarterly hog and pig report will be reduced. Wisconsin will have only state information available from the December release.
- The monthly livestock slaughter report will become a quarterly report.

##### CROPS

- The July forecast of corn yield and production will be eliminated.

The changes in the estimating program came about only after careful review of the entire program. W. E. Kibler, administrator of the Statistical Reporting Service, said the agency will work with groups to reestablish programs being eliminated or curtailed, if funds can be provided. For further information on program changes and reductions contact Carrol Spencer at (608) 264-5317 or send comments to: P. O. Box 9160, Madison, WI 53715.

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